

31 December 1952

Mr. Richard D. Marriott
Head, BBC Monitoring Service
Caversham Park
Reading, Berks., England

Dear Richard:

Your letter of 12 December 1952 was most welcome and appreciated in spite of this unseemly delay in replying to it. The past few weeks have been more than filled with the innumerable details of winding up business for the year.

I am glad that you enjoyed your visit and hope that you will decide favorably, from our standpoint, with regard to the possibility you mentioned to me at the airport just prior to your departure. Already you have a good number of friends in Washington who look forward to your return.

The results of your meeting on Wednesday, 10 December 1952, should, I think, be most gratifying to both of us. I see it as a clear indication that the work we are presently doing is valuable and well received by the offices that we serve. [] has returned and is working on his report at this time. Although I may be optimistic, I hope to have some word for you during my visit in the spring on the probable course of developments resulting from his trip.

All here join me in wishing you and your staff a happy and prosperous New Year.

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Sincerely,

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
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F.B.I.S.,
2430 E Street, N.W.,
Washington 25, D. C.

12th December 1952

Dunkan

I have put off writing to you for a day or two in the hope that I should have some satisfactory news to give you about the question of possible economies in the monitoring of friendly European countries and of the Stockholm project for Baltic coverage. This I can now do as ~~the~~ meeting was held on Wednesday.

But first of all, let me thank you for all your kindness to me and all the trouble you took to make my short visit both enjoyable and profitable. I think the conclusions we reached, if not of earth-shaking importance, were useful and sensible, and we can look forward to another year of cooperation as good as we have had in the past. The solid foundations upon which we work were built before my time by you and others and I can claim no credit for them, but I like to think that they have been a little cemented by my visit. Certainly for me it is a great help to have met personally the people who have only been names to me up to now, and I only wish it were possible for us to meet more often.

At the meeting on Wednesday the reductions in coverage which might have affected you were decisively rejected and I rather hope that we have now heard the last of that matter. The Stockholm project for Baltic coverage was approved. That does not mean, as you will realise, that there are not still a good many hurdles to be got over before the scheme gets finally under way. However, it does mean that things are moving in the right direction, and there is no need for C.I.A. at this stage to make the kind of representations that were envisaged at our meeting with Mr. Carey.

My trip back was not as easy as I had hoped because England was covered in one of the densest fogs for several years. However, we got down all right and I reached here safely after a cross country journey several hours late.

We now greatly look forward to seeing you here in the spring, by which time the fog will probably have blown away.

Duth

• R.D. Marriott •

jmm